

(ii) Reliance Industries Ltd.

(iii) Grasim Ltd. and

(iv) Essar Gujarat Ltd.

(b) and (c) The Government have given in principle approval to these companies to issue bonds/equities in the overseas market.

Impact of New Economic Policy on SCs/STs

1742. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVISINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study on the impact of new economic policy on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interest of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected.

Export of Cashewnuts

1743. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cashewnuts exported during 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to boost its export during 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). The following is the export of cashewnuts from India during 1990-91 and during April-January of 1991-92:

Year	Quantity ('000 MT)	Value (Rs. crores)
1990-91 (Source: DGCI&S)	49.812	441.40
1991-92 (April-Jan.) (Source: Cashew EPC)	37.758	481.36

(c) The Government introduced a package of trade policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives. This process has accelerated with the measures outlined in the Budget proposals presented to Parliament by the Hon'ble Finance Minister on 29th February, 1992.

In addition to the above, Exported Promotion Councils will be participating in certain selected fairs abroad and delegations of

exporters will inter-act with importers in different countries and also by participating in Buyer-seller Meets.

Income Tax on Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees

1744. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of increase in Dearness Allowance to the Central Government employees which comes back to the Union Government by way of income tax;

(b) the effective neutralisation of dearness to employees/pensioners through such dearness Allowance instalments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Separate statistics regarding realisation of income tax from the increase in Dearness Allowance paid to the Central Government employees are not maintained by the Ministry.

(b) Under the existing formula of Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees the extent of neutralisation against price rise is as follows:-

<i>Pay range</i>	<i>Neutralisation</i>
1. Employees drawing pay upto Rs 3500/- p.m.	100%
2. Employees drawing pay above Rs 3500/- p.m. and upto Rs 6000/- p.m.	75%
3. Employees drawing pay above Rs 6000/- p.m.	65%

In the case of Central Government pensioners, the extent of neutralisation is as follows:

<i>Pension</i>	<i>Neutralisation</i>
1. Pensioners drawing pension upto Rs 1750/- p.m.	100%
2. Pensioners drawing pension above Rs 1750/- and upto Rs 3000/- p.m.	75%
3. Pensioners drawing pension above Rs 3000/- p.m.	65%

However, as stated in part (a), statistics regarding realisation of income tax from the increase in Dearness Allowance are not maintained. Therefore, it is not possible to ascertain the effective neutralisation after deduction of income tax.

Vacant Posts and Transfer Policy of Judges in High Court.

1745. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:
KUMARI UMA BHARTI:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Judges existing in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on date, court-wise;

(b) the steps Government propose to take to fulfil these vacancies;

(c) whether the transfer policy of Judges in High Courts has adversely affected the promotion chances of Judges; and

(d) if so, the amendments proposed to be made in the transfer policy?